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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/758,203

01/12/2001

Kazuaki Kinjyou

Q62634

8552

7590

04/06/2005

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EXAMINER

WILLIAMS, KEVIN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

***Reply Brief Noted***

1. The reply brief filed 12/20/2004 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

The Examiner merely noted the Hanks reference to further illustrate the state of the art. The Examiner recognizes that the publication date of the Hanks reference is not prior to the filing date of the instant application. The rejection of claims 1-7 does not rely upon Hanks. It is the Examiner's position that the rejection of claims 1-7 is appropriate with or without reference to the Hanks patent.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin D. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-2172. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KDW

March 30, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew H. Hirshfeld", is written over the printed name.

ANDREW H. HIRSHFELD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800